

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 were pending in the application at the time the present Office Action was mailed. The Office Action rejected claims 1-5, 7-11, and 13-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,499,053 ("Marquette"). The applicants cancel claims 1, 7-11, 13-22, and 24-30 without commenting on or conceding the merits of the Office Action's rejections. The Office Action objected to claims 6 and 12 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The applicants have rewritten these claims in independent form. The applicants have also amended claims 2-5 to depend from claim 6.


The applicants' representative would like to thank the Examiner for his consideration during a telephone interview completed on June 28, 2005. During that telephone interview, the applicants' representative and the Examiner discussed differences between the pending claims and Marquette. The applicants' representative and the Examiner also discussed rewriting claims 6 and 12 in independent form. The applicants' representative and the Examiner also agreed that claim 23 would also be allowable by rewriting the claim in independent form and including a "single hop" feature. The applicants have amended claim 23 accordingly. If the Examiner requires any further information relating to the telephone interview, he is asked to contact the undersigned.

The applicants have amended claim 2 to correct a typographical error. This claim was incorrectly modified in a response to an Office Action filed on January 2, 2004. The amended claim is now identical to the claim as originally filed, except that it now depends from claim 6 instead of claim 1.

Based upon the above amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and its early allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-6478.

Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP

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